

Claims

1. A method of treating liver disease comprising manipulating the expansion of the hepatic stem cell population of a subject at risk of suffering from liver disease by administering to said subject at least one regulator of the sympathetic nervous system.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said regulator comprises an adrenoceptor agonist.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said regulator comprises an adrenoceptor antagonist.
4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said regulator comprises an  $\alpha$ -adrenoceptor antagonist or a  $\beta$ -adrenoceptor antagonist.
5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said regulator comprises an  $\alpha_1$ - $\beta$ -adrenoceptor antagonist for hepatic oval cells.
6. A method according to claim 4, wherein said regulator comprises an  $\beta_2$ -adrenoceptor antagonist for hepatic oval cells.
7. A method according to claim 4, wherein the regulator comprises prazosin.
8. A method according to claim 4, wherein the regulator comprises propranolol.